

Status of the Claims

Claims 1-8 and 17-45 are pending in the application.

Remarks

In the Advisory Action dated February 22, 2005, The Examiner indicated that the reply filed by Applicant on January 24, 2005 was filed after a final rejection. Applicant submits that the reply filed on January 24, 2005 including an Amendment, Declaration Under 37 CFR 1.132 and a Petition for Extension of Time were filed after a **non-final** rejection (dated September 16, 2004), see box 2b of the Office Action Summary attached as Exhibit A. As such, Applicant respectfully requests that the documents, as stated above, be reconsidered by the Examiner and that the Advisory Action dated February 22, 2005 be withdrawn.

Further, in view of the previously submitted amendments, declaration and remarks, Applicant has shown that the invention, as defined in the claims, is neither disclosed nor suggested by the references of record. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of claims 1-8 and 17-45, withdrawal of the rejection of record, and allowance of all claims.